

NOTABLE DEATHS

ROBERT J. SHAW, lawyer, soldier and instructor, died in an army hospital in Munich, Germany, August 2, 1946, from an illness first experienced June 30 this year; born in Chicago, Illinois, May 13, 1891; removed to Iowa and graduated from the Sigourney high school in 1909, from the State University of Iowa in 1916, and received his law degree from Northwestern University in Chicago in 1921; served as Keokuk county attorney from 1923 to 1927; continued in the practice of law there and operated a stock farm near Sigourney until 1940 when he came to Des Moines to serve upon the state selective service board; in World War I was a first lieutenant in France, and returning taught military science and tactics at Coe College, at Cedar Rapids for a year; for eleven consecutive years was either chairman or secretary of the national defense section of the national American Legion convention; was state commander of the American Legion in 1940, and a former president of the Reserve Officers association for the seventh service command; entered the service in World War II and attained the rank of lieutenant colonel; after Pearl Harbor requested transfer to the ground forces; got it in February, 1942; and went overseas Feb. 5, 1943; crossed four enemy defense lines in combat—the Gustav, Hitler and Gothic in Italy, and the Siegfried in Germany; went uninjured through fighting in Tunisia, Algeria, Italy and France, and was at the front before Cassino, Italy, for 93 days; there received the combat infantry man's badge he wore at the top of three rows of World War I and II service ribbons; also had the French Croix de Guerre, and the Brazilian Order of Military Merit; had been assigned to duty in Germany in the prosecution of Nazi war criminals, where he had expected to remain for two years, when illness overtook him in June last.

Mrs. Shaw and Robert, jr., a son, who have resided in Des Moines, were flown to Germany by Atlantic air transport when the colonel was stricken with a coronary thrombosis and were with him when he died. Also with him was his brother, Dr. William J. Shaw, of Missouri, a medical corps colonel who had been on duty in the Pacific theater, in charge of surgery with the 11th army corps, and who flew to Germany about 10 days ago. Colonel Shaw was exceedingly proud of his surgeon brother, and of him said some months ago: "Bill was the son-of-a-gun who administered blood to and saved old Tojo." A daughter, Mrs. Gordon L. Jones, resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

CLAUDE R. PORTER, legislator, soldier and public official, died at Washington, D. C., August 17, 1946; born at Moulton, Iowa, July

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